



Chronic Wasting Disease Certification Program

(Updated January 2008)

Sec. 1 (a) the following definitions apply to this policy:

- (1) "Certification program" means the CWD certification program created in sections 3 and 4 of this policy.
- (2) "Cervidae" or "cervid" means all members of the Cervidae family including deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer and related species and hybrids thereof.
- (3) "Chronic wasting disease" or "CWD" means a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) of cervids. CWD is caused by prions, abnormal proteins, which are not sensitive to routinely used disinfectants or sterilization.
- (4) "Commingle" refers to animals that have had direct contact with each other or have less than 30 feet of physical separation or share management equipment, pasture, or water resources/watershed.
- (5) "CWD positive cervid" means a cervid that has been diagnosed by the state veterinarian as having chronic wasting disease based on approved laboratory results.
- (6) "CWD positive herd" means a privately owned cervid (POC) herd from which the state veterinarian has diagnosed any cervid with CWD.
- (7) "CWD exposed herd" and "exposed" means a designation applied to privately owned cervids that have had contact with CWD positive POC animals or with animals from a CWD positive POC herd within the last 60 months.
- (8) "Herd" refers to a group of animals that are under common ownership or supervision and are grouped on one or more premises. A group of animals that are under common ownership or supervision which have been geographically separated but which animals have been interchanged or had direct or indirect contact with each other. A group of animals that have commingled.
- (9) "High risk animal" means a cervid that may have been exposed to CWD. The state veterinarian shall determine which animals are high-risk animals based on an epidemiological investigation that includes evaluation of animal movements, housing, location, and probable contacts with CWD positive POC or CWD positive wild cervidae.
- (10) "Official laboratory" means a laboratory approved by the state veterinarian.

(11) "Privately Owned Cervidae (POC)" means members of the cervid family fenced in and owned by an individual, corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership, association, joint venture, or other legal entity.

(12) "Quarantine" means enforced isolation of any animal or groups of animals or restriction of movement of an animal, group of animals, equipment, or vehicles to or from any structure, premises or area of this state including the entirety of the state.

(13) "State veterinarian" means the chief animal health official of the state as appointed by the director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, or his or her authorized representative.

General Provisions

Official test

Sec. 2 (a) Any official test for chronic wasting disease must be conducted at a laboratory approved by the state veterinarian.

(b) All tests for CWD required by this program or conducted pursuant to this policy must be official tests. The result of a test for CWD that is not an official test will not be used to determine compliance with this policy.

Records

All records required to be kept by this program shall be kept by the owner while the herd is active in the CWD Certification program and for not less than seven (7) years after.

Herd Registration

Sec. 3 (a) The owner of a cervid herd located in Michigan must meet the following requirements:

(1) Each cervid herd must be registered with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as required by the *Privately Owned Cervidae Market Producers Act, Act 190 PA 2000 as amended December 29, 2006 (POCMPA)*.

(2) Every animal in the herd must be officially identified with an official identification as described in *Operational Standards for Registered Privately Owned Cervid Facilities as amended December 29, 2006 (OS/POC)*.

(3) The owner must keep a record of each animal in a manner prescribed by OS/POC-POCMPA.

Chronic wasting disease certification herd status

Sec. 4 (a) An owner of a cervid herd located in Michigan may obtain a chronic wasting disease certification status for the herd from the Michigan Department of Agriculture by complying with the following requirements:

(1) The owner of the herd must submit a request application approved by the state veterinarian for participation in the certification program.

(2) Every animal in the applicant's herd is required to have two forms of identification with at least one being visible (minimum tag diameter of 1 1/8 inches) and one being official. MDA official identification includes electronic implant, tamper resistant ear tag (metal or electronic), ear tattoo, and flank tattoo.

(3) The owner must keep a record of each animal in the herd including a record of each animal that is added to the herd and each animal that is removed from the herd. The owner must provide the state veterinarian a written herd inventory including each animal's identification annually or upon request of the state veterinarian. Included in that inventory must be the origin of all animals added since the last inventory. **Satisfactory inventory is due by the anniversary date to prevent suspension or loss of status.**

- If a complete inventory is not received and satisfactory by the anniversary date, status **WILL BE SUSPENDED**. During this time, animals **cannot** be sold as having a CWD status level.
- After two months of suspension, if satisfactory inventories have not been received, status and participation in the program **WILL BE REVOKED**.
- If status is revoked, herd will need to reapply. If after review, application is approved, herd status will begin at Level One status.

(4) The owner must present each animal in the herd to the state veterinarian for inspection and verification of identification upon beginning the certification program, **AND** at a minimum of every three years, **AND** at the discretion of the state veterinarian thereafter.

- This visual inspection of each individual animal can occur while whole herd bovine TB testing is being performed. If this option is preferred, it will be the responsibility of the owner to give the state a minimum of three weeks notice of the testing date, if the state is to be able to accommodate the request.
- If the owner fails to request the inspection a minimum of three weeks in advance, it will be the owner's responsibility to schedule another time to make each animal available for individual tag inspection in order to maintain current CWD Certification status.

(5) Upon the death of an animal in the herd, twelve (12) months and older, or of an age determined by the state veterinarian, for any reason, the owner shall have the animal tested for CWD. The tissue samples to be collected will be determined by the state veterinarian. The tissue samples must be collected by one of the following: an accredited veterinarian, an official laboratory, a veterinarian employed by the state or federal government. The owner shall dispose of the remaining carcass according to the Bodies of Dead Animals Act or as directed by the state veterinarian.

(6) The owner shall pay for any fees associated with testing an animal from his or her herd for chronic wasting disease including any fees necessary for tissue collection and laboratory diagnostic costs. The state veterinarian may allow the owner to utilize state or federal funds, if applicable, to pay for the costs of testing for CWD in lieu of the herd owner paying for testing.

(7) The owner must make available each animal in the herd to the state veterinarian as needed for disease investigations or traceback purposes.

(8) All handling and feeding equipment and facilities of the certified animals cannot be shared with animals of a lower status. If this occurs, all animals will assume status of lowest animal.

(9) The state veterinarian may grant a waiver from the requirement in section 4 (a)(5) if an epidemiological evaluation of the herd indicates that testing the deceased animal would not further the goal of chronic wasting disease surveillance and control. The state veterinarian shall consider the length of time the herd has been in the surveillance program, the herd's health history, the potential effects of any additions to the herd, and the potential exposure to the POC herd from wild cervids when considering waivers under this subsection.

Sec 5 (a) A cervid owner may receive the following chronic wasting disease herd status while participating in the chronic wasting disease certification program described in this section:

(1) Level One status begins when all required paperwork has been received and approved by MDA-AID.

(2) Level Two status after one (1) year of participation, with no positive samples.

(3) Level Three status after two (2) years of participation, with no positive samples.

(4) Level Four status after three (3) years of participation, with no positive samples.

(5) Level Five status after four (4) or more years of participation, with no positive samples.

(6) CWD certified status after five (5) or more years of participation, with no positive samples.

(7) "Pending status" may be assigned to the herd if the program has not been followed and/or the herd has potentially been exposed to CWD.

(b) If an animal is added to a herd, the chronic wasting disease certified status of a herd will be altered as follows:

(1) The chronic wasting disease status will not change if the animal that is added to the herd originated from a herd that has a chronic wasting disease certified status equal to or greater than the recipient herd.

(2) If the animal that is added to the herd originated from a herd that has a chronic wasting disease certified status lower than the recipient herd, the recipient herd's status will be lowered to the status of the lowest status cervid added.

(c) A newly assembled herd shall assume a CWD level equal to the lowest CWD level of the purchased animals if the following criteria are met:

(1) The facility has not housed any cervids within the last five (5) years.

(2) If the facility has housed cervids within the last five (5) years, the newly assembled herd will take on the status of the previous animals.

(3) The owner applies for the status transfer within 30 days of assembling the herd.

(4) If the application is made after 30 days, the herd will start at Level One, assuming all requirements have been met.

(d) All escapees must be reported to MDA **immediately**.

(1) Reintroducing escapees into your facility will drop your status to level one.

The state veterinarian, or a representative authorized by the state veterinarian, may suspend, revoke, or lower the CWD certification program status of a herd if the herd owner does not meet the requirements under this section, violates any provision of this rule, or the herd has exposure to a high risk animal.

CWD Positive Cervid.

Sec. 6 (a) Whenever an animal is determined to be CWD positive, the state veterinarian shall conduct a complete epidemiological investigation to determine the specific cause and source of the disease and to determine the population infected with and exposed to the disease.

(b) Whenever a cervid is determined to be positive with chronic wasting disease the following apply:

(1) The Michigan Department of Agriculture/Michigan Department of Natural Resources Contingency Plan shall be activated.

(2) In addition, the follow measures will be implemented at the discretion of the state veterinarian

(a) The positive animal or its carcass shall be condemned by the state veterinarian.

(b) The positive herd shall be quarantined by the state veterinarian.

(c) The positive herd will be depopulated using protocol established by the state veterinarian.

(d) The positive herd premises shall be cleaned in a manner prescribed by the state veterinarian that is designed to minimize the likelihood that chronic wasting disease is spread.

CWD Exposed Cervids

Sec. 7 (a) Trace forward of exposed animals

(1) Removal and testing of the exposed animal(s) with indemnity if available.

(a) If the exposed animal is positive, the entire herd is considered positive.

(b) If the animal is negative, routine surveillance would continue

(b) Trace back of exposed animals

(1) Monthly inspection by State or Federal personnel with removal and CWD testing of any suspect animals. Disposal of these animals must follow a plan approved by the state veterinarian.

(2) Quarantine of the herd for 60 months from the last case traced back to the herd.

(3) Herd surveillance (mandatory death reporting and CWD testing of all age animals) will be conducted during the quarantine and will continue for 60 months from the date the CWD positive animal left the herd.

Import requirements

Sec 8 Cervid imports

Effective April 26, 2002 deer and elk shall not be imported into Michigan.

For applications and questions

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